

Available Resources

Cradles to Crayons – EHS provides basic needs items for enrolled families as a distribution partner for the Cradles to Crayons program. Cradles to Crayons provides children from birth to age 12, living in low income and homeless situations, with the essential items they need to thrive – at home, at school and at play. Items are supplied free of charge and EHS staff will deliver during home visits.

Early Childhood Safety Grant Program – Safety items are provided, based on availability, to enrolled EHS families to maintain the safe environments that all families strive to provide to their young children. A home safety survey is conducted by EHS staff on a home visit to determine needs of items such as: safety gates, car seats, electric outlet covers, etc. Items are delivered during a home visit.

EHS Early Intervention Collaboration – AHS EHS collaborates with local Early Intervention programs to provide developmental screenings and/or assessments to enrolled children to determine if any developmental delays exist.



"Choice, Opportunity, Support"

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All contributions are deductible for income tax purposes.

Early Head Start



"Choice, Opportunity, Support"



Purpose

The Early Head Start (EHS) HOME-BASED program provides free comprehensive services to expectant families, as well as families with children birth to age 3, who meet income eligibility guidelines. Service areas include Attleboro, Middleboro and Norton.

The Early Head Start (EHS) CENTER-BASED program provides free comprehensive services and supports to families with children birth to age 3 who meet income eligibility guidelines and are enrolled in one of our partnership child care centers. Service areas include Brockton, Fall River and New Bedford.

Comprehensive services in both program options include child development, dental health, mental health, nutrition, parent engagement, safety, school readiness, social services and wellness.

Early Head Start is funded through a federal grant by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Early Head Start is an equal opportunity provider and supports children of all abilities and families from all cultures.

Program Models

Home-based program model

- Weekly 1 ½ hour home visit provided by assigned Parent Child Advocate (PCA)
- Playgroups for parents and children
- Parent Support Groups
- Parent Education workshops and trainings
- Resource and Referral to local community agencies as needed
- Family Activities
- Involvement in Child Screening & Assessment
- Interpreter services and transportation
- Support for Expectant Families with PCA, home visits 2X a month from a registered nurse
- All children remain in the program until age 3 regardless of changes to income status

Center-based program model

- 2X year home visits provided
- Diapers, formula and wipes provided for free while in attendance at centers
- Involvement in Child Screening & Assessment
- Family Activities
- Parent Education workshops and trainings
- All children remain in the program until age 3 regardless of changes to income status

Goals

- Increase parents' understanding of the importance of a nurturing relationship as well as children's behavior and development
- Involve parents in setting developmental goals that enhance their child's development
- Assist and support parents to achieve economic self-sufficiency

Philosophy

Since a parent is the most important person in a child's life, it is essential that EHS staff and parents work together to individualize goals that promote healthy development and attachments with their children through relationships. Staff and parents form partnerships to understand individual family's unique differences, personal values, and cultural expectations.